

* The work adapts too much of a factual approach and limits to the times rather than universally
* The literature is reflective of the author’s background/ life

*final*

***thoughts...***

*Courtesy of:*

*Emma Castelli, Carolyn Learned, and Paige Gregory*

*Definition*

*Examples of questions asked*

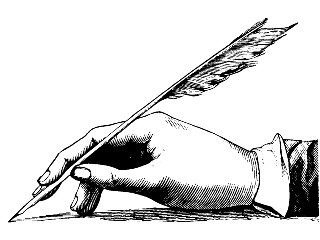
*Literary examples*

*Real life examples*

*Advantages/disadvantages*

***in this issue >>>***

*Finding An Agent That’s Right For You*



Verify the text—when you don’t understand an allusion in the text, look it up!

Familiarize yourself with contemporary issues—watch the news, read a newspaper, subscribe to a magazine, get educated!

Read up on the author—an author’s background can explain a lot, so start learning!

Apply what you know to the text—now that you understand the allusion, figure how it applies to the context of the text

If you’re really stuck, reference other texts of the same time period and compare themes and writing styles

*How to?*

* The reader views the literature in *solely* the historical/ biographical approach, failing to understand the writing’s concept.
* A reader cannot separate the text from its author
* A reader can place allusions present in the text in their proper classical, political, or bibli-cal background.
* Military, social, economic, scientific, intellectual, and literary history knowledge can aid a reader in understanding the text

Disadvantages

Advantages

* **Pushing Daises** *uses a magnitude of allusions and references in context, making viewing the program difficult to comprehend*
* **Gilmore Girls** *Lorelai and Rory are both movie fanatics and share many media references. Rory also shares several literary “puns” with her boyfriends, Jess and Logan.*
* **World News** *it’s always helpful to be aware of historical issues when watching the news to make connections.*
* **English class!**

***real life***

***The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*** a reader must analyze how racism and slavery were perceived in the 1830’s and recognize Jim’s role as “inhuman” and also

***The Crucible*** takes place during the era of the Salem Witch Trials and a reader must understand primarily the hysteria of the time period to comprehend the play.

***The Pedagogy of the Oppressed*** Paulo Freire wrote for educative reform for Brazil in the 1970’s. A reader must acknowledge this and look past their experiences with education and adapt a new perspective.

***To Kill a Mockingbird*** slavery and racism were obviously prevalent during this time period so a reader must perceive Tom Robinson as “inhuman” to understand the Southern perspective of blacks.

***A Thousand Splendid Suns*** to understand the inequality amongst women and men in Afghanistan a reader must be aware of the Taliban beliefs

***George Bush’s Fifth Anniversary 9/11 Speech*** because perspectives of tragedies change yearly, the fifth anniversary of Sept. 11th was less emotional and more concerned with efforts to stop terrorism

***The Scarlet Letter*** a reader must understand that adultery was a highly offensive sin and was punished beyond modern standards

* **When using the historical/ biographical approach, one must examine the author’s background (political, economical, sociological, etc.) in order to understand his works.**

*examples* **🡪🡪🡪**

1. Where was author born?
2. What era did author grow up in?
3. What is author’s history with war/conflict, poverty or wealth, economic depression, etc.?
4. Does the author have bias?
5. Was the author educated? If so, where and to what extent?
6. What is the author’s marital status?
7. Does the author have siblings?
8. Where does the book take place?
9. What historical monuments are mentioned in the text?
10. Does the author’s voice come through? If so, what is it?

**An Insight into the Historical/Biographical Approach of Literature**

*Historical /*

***biographical***